

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a synopsis for a program, the method comprising:

receiving a channel selection at a controller ~~selecting a channel~~ during transmission of a the program;

receiving a request for the synopsis of the program during transmission of the program;

upon receipt of the request for the synopsis, identifying the portion of the program being transmitted via a clock time; and

~~upon request, providing~~ receiving a synopsis of the program from a beginning of the program transmission until the identified clock time ~~the channel was selected~~.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the synopsis is provided via a second channel.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the synopsis is presented in a fast forward mode.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the synopsis includes highlights of important events.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the program is a sporting event.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 49 52 further comprising selecting the highlights from a number of predefined highlights.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising streaming the synopsis for playback from a remote site.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising downloading the synopsis for playback from customer premise equipment (CPE).

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising streaming the synopsis over a VOD channel.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising providing the synopsis as text.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising providing the synopsis from a web page stored on a remote server.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising requiring maintaining the channel selection for a predefined period of time before providing the synopsis

61. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~for providing a synopsis for a program, the apparatus~~ comprising:

a storage medium; and

a controller operatively coupled to the storage medium, the controller executing computer-readable instruction for providing synopsis for a program, the computer-readable instructions comprising:

~~-(1) selecting a channel during transmission of a program and (2) upon request, providing a synopsis of the program from a beginning of the program transmission until the channel was selected.~~

receiving a channel selection during transmission of the program;

receiving a request for the synopsis of the program during transmission of the program;

upon receipt of the request for the synopsis, identifying the portion of the program being transmitted via a clock time; and

receiving a synopsis of the program from a beginning of the program transmission until the identified clock time.

62. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the controller provides the synopsis via a second channel.

63. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the controller provides the synopsis in a fast forward mode.

64. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the controller is configured to provide the synopsis only after maintaining the channel selection for a predefined period.

65. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a synopsis for a television program, the method comprising:

providing the synopsis if the synopsis is requested after selecting the program while transmission of the program is already in progress; and

generating the synopsis only upon receipt of the request for the synopsis, the synopsis including at least a text summary of the program that was transmitted within a predefined time period prior to selecting the program.

66. (Currently Amended) A system for broadcasting television programs, the system comprising:

a broadcasting element for broadcasting television programs over a number of channels;

a source for broadcasting synopses of the programs over a number of other channels, wherein the source broadcasts the synopses ~~on-demand~~ after receipt of a request to broadcast the synopses and when a channel ~~having a synopsis~~ is selected after transmission of the program has begun, the synopsis summarizing the program that was transmitted prior to selecting the channel.

67. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~64~~6 wherein the source limits the synopsis to the portion of the program transmitted since a last time the channel was selected.

68. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~64~~6 wherein the source generates the synopsis after the channel is selected.

69. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~64~~6 wherein the source selects highlights included within the synopsis based on time-stamps associated with the highlights that correspond with time-stamps associated with portions of the program transmitted prior to selecting the channel.

70. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~64~~6 wherein the source streams the synopsis for playback.

71. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~64~~6 wherein the source downloads the synopsis.